

of the Crocodile River. This Duck's most southerly breeding-ground was previously believed to be Lake Ngami. Other articles are by Mr. B. C. R. Langford on a curious plumage-variation in a Lanner (*Falco biarmicus*), and on the breeding of the Kurrichaine Button-Quail (*Turnix lepurana*) by Mr. Mörs. Finally, we must congratulate Mr. Haagner on his promotion to the post of Director of the Zoological Gardens in Pretoria.

Yearbook of the Dutch Bird-Club.

[Club van Nederlandsche Vogelkundigen. Jaarbericht, no. 4. Deventer, 1914.]

Under its energetic President, Baron Snouckaert van Schanburg, the Dutch bird-club occupies itself chiefly with matters of local importance in Holland. The President himself gives us his usual report on the occurrence of rare birds in the Netherlands between Oct. 1913 and Sept. 1914. It does not seem yet certain whether the British Song-Thrush occurs in Holland or not. In another short note he discusses the identification of the Little Owl of Palestine, and comes to the conclusion that two examples in his collection obtained near Jerusalem should be referred to *Athene noctua glaux*, the Egyptian subspecies, rather than to Hartert's *A. n. lilith*, which is said by the last-named author to inhabit Syria, Palestine, and Mesopotamia. Another article by Baron Snouckart deals with a pleasant five weeks ramble through Italy with notes on the birds observed.

The only other contribution of any length is one by M. A. Crèvecoeur on the avifauna of the Hague and its neighbourhood, accompanied by a map and topographical information. The number of species recorded is 146.

List of other Ornithological Publications received.

- BUTERLIN, S. A. Birds of the Ussuri-land. And other papers from Russian periodicals.
 MOULTON, J. C. Thirteenth Report on the Sarawak Museum, 1914. (Sarawak, 1915.)

- The Auk. (Vol. xxxii. No. 2. Cambridge, Mass., 1915.)
Avicultural Magazine. (Third Series, Vol. vi. Nos. 6-8. London, 1915.)
Bird Notes. (New Series, Vol. vi. Nos. 4-6. Ashbourne, 1915.)
British Birds. (Vol. viii. Nos. 11-12. London, 1915.)
California Fish and Game. (Vol. i. No. 3. San Francisco, 1915.)
The Condor. (Vol. xvii. Nos. 2, 3. Hollywood, Cal., 1915.)
The Emu. (Vol. xiv. pt. 4. Melbourne, 1915.)
The Irish Naturalist. (Vol. xxiv. Nos. 4-6. Dublin, 1915.)
Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums. (Vols. v. No. 3; vi. No. 1. Kuala Lumpur, 1915.)
Messenger Ornithologique. (1915, No. 2. Moscow, 1915.)
Report of the Poultry Expert (South Australia) for the Year 1913-14. (Adelaide, 1915.)
The Scottish Naturalist. (Nos. 40-42. Edinburgh, 1915.)
The South Australian Ornithologist. (Vol. ii. pt. 2. Adelaide, 1915.)
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XXXI.—*Letters, Extracts, and Notes.*

THE following letters have been received :—

MESSRS. COCKERELL AND THORPE.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a paper by Mr. G. M. Mathews, "A recent Ornithological Discovery in Australia," published in 'The Ibis' for January 1915. On p. 80 Mr. Mathews, in recording the names of the collectors who "have touched at Cape York," mentions those of Messrs. Cockerell and Thorpe. He says:—"These collectors, who must stand in the forefront of careful and accurate workers as regards the acquisition and preparation of bird-skins, thought that by the falsification of localities they might obtain better prices for their goods; they therefore made an expedition to some islands to the north of Australia, probably the Aru group, where they made a magnificent collection, and then palmed these off mixed with true Cape York birds as having been all procured at Cape York. This collection, purchased by Messrs. Godman and Salvin, and later presented to the British Museum, has